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## Metro Drive

**Celebrating 100 years of Audi, Suzuki**

pg 10

# Trust fund set up for girl killed by storm debris

**DEATH** A trust fund has been set up for the funeral of a three-year-old girl who was killed in a freak accident over the weekend.

Michelle Krsek was killed when a piece of sheet metal flew off of an 18-storey-building construction site downtown during a storm and landed on her, her father and her brother.

Her father and brother remain in hospital.

The trust fund has been set up in her mother's name, Mariana Krsek, at the Bank of Montreal Shawnessy Branch in an effort to help pay for the little girl's funeral.

Meanwhile, questions are flying about the safety of the construction site while Calgary police and Alberta Workplace Health and Safety continue to investigate.

METRO CALGARY

**Travel** pg 11

## Hidden gems await in Syria

**Entertainment** pg 13

## Toys become film fodder

Festival **Plays**

ROBIN KANIUKA/FOR METRO CALGARY

Helene Pisterzi, left, Stuart Bently, box office co-ordinator, and Michele Gallant, festival director, have some fun at one of the many venues showing plays this week at the Calgary Fringe Festival.

# Bus driver hospitalized after attack

AMY GREGSON
for Metro Calgary

**CRIME** A Calgary Transit bus driver was assaulted yesterday morning after stopping at an unmarked stop in the community of Saddleridge.

Police said the attack happened at around 7:20 a.m., when three males boarded the bus after the driver picked them up at the side of the road. They allegedly assaulted the driver, spray-painted his face and left him with a cut.

"The descriptions are very minimal at this time, but the investigation is continuing," said Staff Sgt. Geoff Gawlinski.

Gawlinski said that the driver may have been unconscious at some point and was transferred to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

Theresa Keddy, communications strategist for Calgary Transit, said assaults on bus drivers are rare, but precautions are taken.

Keddy said when in motion, the bus driver can press an emergency button or apply the brakes quickly to activate a camera to record what is happening on the bus.

"That has helped considerably with driver and customer safety," said Keddy.

However, Keddy said the bus was stopped at the time of the attack, and there isn't any footage of the incident.

# Desperate cries for freedom

## Woman claiming to be kidnapped journalist pleads for federal help

VICTORIA HANDYSIDES
Metro Canada

**She's sick, and will surely die unless the Canadian government attempts to free her, the pleading voice of a woman claiming to be kidnapped Alberta journalist Amanda Lindhout told a television station Monday.**

"There's no one to take care of me here. I'm afraid I will die if I don't get help soon. I don't know how much longer I can bear this," she said to Omni TV.

"My government must have some duty to help me. I love my country and I want to return. I'm begging my government to please come to my aid."

Amanda Lindhout

The 28-year-old Sylvan Lake native and Australian photographer Nigel Brennan were captured near the Somalian capital of Mogadishu on Aug. 23, 2008. Her captors are reportedly asking for $1 million to ensure her release.

"The men that are holding me are very serious. They say if the ransom is not paid, they're going to kill me," she said.

Canadian Foreign Affairs spokeswoman Emma Welford said federal officials are aware of the call, but wouldn't comment on efforts to free Lindhout.

Somali Journalists' Rights Agency spokesman Daud Abdi Daud said the move may be a sign her captors are growing frustrated with the Canadian government's inaction.

**"The kidnappers want their money and they're pushing these two journalists to get it."**
Daud Abdi Daud, Somali Journalists' Rights Agency

"The kidnappers want their money and they're pushing these two journalists to get it," he said.

This isn't the first time Lindhout has made a plea for her rescue. On June 11, 2009, the frail-looking journalist pleaded for the Canadian government to help.

The New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists says Somalia is "the most dangerous country in the world for journalists, outstripping Iraq in 2009."

The last killing was that of Radio IQK journalist Mohamud Mohamed Yusuf, who was shot leaving his station in early July.

Yusuf's murder was the 15th documented journalist fatality in the country since 2007, and the sixth this year.

Free Daily News Group Inc., operating as Metro Calgary. 120, 3030 - 3 Avenue NE, Calgary, Alberta T2A 6T7. Publisher: Steve Shrout

**Taste of Calgary pushed back a week**

The threat of rain has caused Taste of Calgary to push the date of their festival back one weekend. The outdoor food and drink tasting festival will now run from Aug. 13 to 16 at Eau Claire Market instead of the scheduled Aug. 6 to 9. METRO CALGARY

# Local

## Get ready for Marda Gras

**The streets of Marda Loop will be transformed to reflect the sights and sounds of New Orleans as the 25th Annual Marda Gras Festival takes place Aug. 9. There will be vendors, music and cultural performers during the free event from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on 33 and 34 Avenue SW For more information visit mardaloopbrz.ca.** METRO CALGARY

## News in brief

**TICKETS** The Alberta Sheriff Highway Patrol issued 2,388 charges across the province over the August long weekend including, 1,818 speeding violations and several seatbelt infractions, child restraint infractions and Gaming and Liquor Act violations and failure to stop at a stop sign.

METRO CALGARY

metronews.ca
What's online today.

**Video** Officials say the next 48 hours will be crucial as wildfires threaten a B.C. communities at **metronews.ca/canada**

**Video** Toronto residents rejoice as garbage collectors return to work after a lengthy strike at **metronews.ca/canada**

# Remembering a friend

LAURENCE HEINEN
for Metro Calgary

**Amber Bowerman's memory will live on at the First Annual Sugarbowl Fundraiser on Saturday.**

Lawn bowling was one of Bowerman's favourite activities so the Amber Webb-Bowerman Memorial Foundation thought it was fitting to organize a tournament in honour of the Calgary journalist, who was tragically killed in a Dalhousie multiple murder-suicide in May of 2008.

"We just want to have some fun, raise some money and just celebrate Amber's life in a way that she would have enjoyed," said Colleen Seto, secretary of the foundation's board.

The event starts at 6:30 p.m. at the Calgary Lawn Bowling Club with registration and free lessons.

"There's no skill necessary in terms of whether they've played before," said Seto, noting the event will feature a silent auction with donated items up for grabs.

People can register as singles, couples or teams of four and entry fee is $50 per person. To register or donate items for the silent auction, email info@amberbowerman.ca. Proceeds will go to creating a scholarship endowment fund at SAIT.

"We basically want to support students who have similar aspirations as to what Amber had to pursue their dreams since hers were cut short," Seto said.

ROBIN KUNIKSKI/FOR METRO CALGARY

**Meredith Boyer and Colleen Seto hope to strike it big with the Sugarbowl lawn bowling tournament on Saturday in memory of murder victim Amber Bowerman on Saturday.**

# British soldier injured in 'assault' at Suffield

AMY GREGSON
for Metro Calgary

**MILITARY** An incident at CFB Suffield east of Calgary has left one British soldier in hospital with serious injuries.

The Royal Military Police remains tight-lipped on what happened but said that the incident occurred on the Suffield base at 5 a.m. Sunday morning, although a RCMP official called it an "aggravated assault."

Those involved were from the 1st Battalion Scots Guards who are currently in Canada on exercise, said Capt. Roy Pierson.

During the incident, a 27-year-old man was critically injured with serious head injuries.

The soldier was transferred to a hospital in Medicine Hat, but has since been moved to a hospital in Calgary.

"At this time it would be inappropriate to comment because the investigation is ongoing," said Pierson.

Pierson said he doesn't want to compromise the investigation in and wouldn't comment of the victim's current state.

The investigation into what happened is ongoing and involves the RCMP and both the British and Canadian military.

Pierson didn't know when the investigation would be completed.

ShareYourViews
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Charles Weaselhead

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- Grand Chief Charles Weaselhead, Treaty 7

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**PM set to announce Panama free-trade deal**
Prime Minister Stephen Harper is expected to announce a free-trade deal with Panama next week when he meets with the right-wing supermarket magnate who won the presidency of the Central American country three months ago. METRO NEWS SERVICES

# Canada

## Human foot found in trash

**A foot found in an upstate New York garbage dump Monday night is at the centre of a Toronto investigation after suggestions that it might have originated from the city's trash. Workers at the Seneca, N.Y. garbage dump just outside Buffalo discovered the foot around 8:50 p.m. Monday while manually removing recyclables off a conveyor belt that displayed the Toronto trash, Toronto police Staff Sgt. David Vickers said.** TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## News in brief

**VIDEO** A YouTube video showing a seven-year-old boy at the wheel of a sport utility vehicle — with his family cheering him on — has prompted an investigation by Quebec police and family services, police said yesterday. The video was apparently shot by the boy's father from the SUV's passenger seat as the boy drives and his mom and siblings watch from the back seat.
REUTERS

**ETHIOPIA** The federal government should consider curbing foreign aid to Ethiopia to express its unhappiness over the case of a Canadian jailed for life in the African country, a lawyer for the man said yesterday. An Ethiopian court jailed Canadian Bashir Makhtal on Monday after he was convicted of membership in a rebel group fighting for independence for an ethnically Somali part of that country, lawyer Lorne Waldman said.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## CFB Trenton **Mourning heroes**

MARK CASSESE/REUTERS

Mourners carry roses to the casket of fallen Canadian soldier Cpl. Christian Bobbitt during a repatriation ceremony at Canadian Forces Base Trenton in Ontario yesterday. Bobbitt was killed on Saturday in Afghanistan.

# Premiers take aim at 'Buy America' policy

## Leaders gather to help PM repel U.S. protectionism

**Canada's provincial and territorial leaders gather today in Regina amid urgent calls for them to help Prime Minister Stephen Harper repel U.S. protectionist "Buy America" trade policies.**

Harper, who meets with U.S. President Barack Obama on Sunday, is banking on the premiers formally coming out against domestic discriminatory trading practices. The prime minister hopes any premiers' accord can be used as leverage by Obama to convince protectionists in the U.S. Congress to give Canadian firms an exemption from the Buy America provisions being applied by state and local governments.

Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall, who is hosting the three-day meeting, said in an interview yesterday he believes some sort of an agreement can be reached.

"I sense a great deal of consensus obviously amongst the provinces to say, 'Look, if we're going to be going down and pointing out the problems with the Buy America plan we do have to make sure our own house in order' ... We're always better off in free trade environments," said Wall.

Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty told reporters yesterday the premiers want "to enable the federal government to make a proposal to negotiate a new agreement that is specific to the stimulus monies coming out of Washington these days."
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

### Compromise

- Last week, the Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters and the Canadian Council of Chief Executives urged the prime minister and the premiers to come up with a trade-rules compromise.

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**'Sexting' on the rise in Britain**

A growing number of British teens are swapping explicit images of themselves on mobile phones, leaving them open to bullying and victimization, police and a children's charity said yesterday. The practice, known as "sexting," has also resulted in intimate images of children being posted on sites used by pedophiles, according to Britain's Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre. REUTERS

# World

## Berlusconi's daughter questions dad

**Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi's daughter has said she was amazed by the attention her father lavished on a teenage model. Barbara Berlusconi, 25, also told the Italian Vanity Fair, left, that politicians should uphold the values they preach publicly in their private lives — in contrast to Berlusconi's allies who say his personal life has no bearing on his public role. Berlusconi, 72, has denied an improper relationship with Noemi Letizia after showing up at her 18th birthday party with an $8,600 US necklace, prompting his wife to seek a divorce over his alleged womanizing.** REUTERS

# Clinton secures release

## North Korea pardons U.S. journalists, who leave with former president

**North Korea said last night it had pardoned two jailed American journalists after former U.S. President Bill Clinton met the reclusive state's leader Kim Jong-il, a move some analysts said could pave the way to direct nuclear disarmament talks.**

Clinton's spokesman said the former president had left Pyongyang with the two reporters and they were flying to Los Angeles.

Washington, which is keen not to be seen to reward the isolated North for its recent nuclear and missile tests, insisted the meeting was a private one by Clinton. But Pyongyang, desperate for the recognition that direct talks with the Obama administration would bring, made clear it saw the visit in a much more official light. The North's KCNA news agency said Clinton and Kim "had candid and in-depth discussions on the pending issues between the DPRK (North Korea) and the U.S. in a sincere atmosphere."

The two reporters, Euna Lee, 36, and Laura Ling, 32, who work for Current TV, an American TV outlet co-founded by Clinton's vice president, Al Gore, had been sentenced to 12 years hard labour for illegally entering the North and committing "grave crimes."

"The families of Laura Ling and Euna Lee are overjoyed by the news of their pardon," said a statement posted on a website created to support the two journalists.

Clinton, husband of Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, was the highest-level American to visit the reclusive communist state since his secretary of state, Madeleine Albright, went there in 2000.

His trouble-shooting mission coincided with intense speculation over succession in Asia's only communist dynasty. Several reports suggest an increasingly frail-looking Kim, 67, has settled on his third son to take over.

It also comes as relations between Washington and Pyongyang have turned even worse after the North's nuclear test on May 25, which was met by U.S.-led international sanctions. REUTERS

### Advance agreement

• The North Korean government had agreed in advance that two jailed American journalists would be released to former president Bill Clinton, a senior administration official said yesterday. North Korean leaders also agreed in advance that Clinton's visit would not be linked to the nuclear issue, the official told reporters. The official also said that members of President Barack Obama's national security team briefed Clinton before he left on his surprise trip to North Korea.

## Sudanese police officers break up pants protest

**TRIAL** Police used teargas to disperse protesters rallying in support of a Sudanese woman facing 40 lashes for wearing trousers in public yesterday, a case that has become a public test of Sudan's indecency laws.

Lubna Hussein, a former journalist and UN press officer, was arrested with 12 other women during a party at a Khartoum restaurant in July and charged with being indecently dressed.

Women's groups have complained the law gives no clear definition of indecent dress, leaving the decision of whether to arrest a woman up to individual police officers. Dozens of men and women gathered outside a Khartoum courtroom where Hussein appeared yesterday, carrying banners with the message "No return to the dark ages" and "Lubna's case is a case for all Sudanese women." REUTERS

## At least five dead in gym shooting

**PENNSYLVANIA** At least five people, including the gunman, were shot and killed during a shooting spree at a fitness centre near Pittsburgh, according to media reports last night. The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette reported on its website that a man with a duffel bag walked into an L.A. Fitness Center in Collier township and began firing. CNN quoted a local official as saying five people were killed and up to another 15 wounded. The shooter was among the dead, Collier township manager Gary Vituccio told the network. REUTERS

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## Washington **Happy Birthday, Mr. President**

JASON REED/REUTERS

**Climate change activists wear party hats alongside a giant mask featuring U.S. President Barack Obama on the occasion of his 48th birthday yesterday in Washington. The protesters "celebrated" by symbolically presenting a giant plane ticket for him to attend the December UN climate change conference in Denmark.**

## **News** in brief

**TERROR** Australian police arrested four men they said were linked to a Somali militant group yesterday, accusing them of planning a suicide attack on an army base and raising fears the al-Qaida-linked rebels were seeking targets outside Africa. The four were seized in dawn raids on 19 properties across Melbourne following a seven-month investigation involving several forces and Australia's national security agency.

**FOOD** India has asked UNICEF to stop distributing millions of dollars worth of nutrition aid to children, saying it had been done without permission and at the expense of local food to fight hunger. The Ministry for Women and Child Development said UNICEF had not informed the government about importing $2.4 million worth of food in 2008 and said the money could have been spent elsewhere. UNICEF said more than 400 million are chronically hungry in the region — the highest level in 40 years — in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

**BEAR** Russian hunters are pursuing a bear that killed a woman in the centre of a far eastern town yesterday before escaping into the forest, news agencies reported. Professional hunters and security officials launched the bear hunt in Palana, a town of about 4,000 people at the northern end of Kamchatka peninsula, Interfax news agency said. REUTERS

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**Comment**

# Ode to the 'Father of Medicare'

TheWestView

As Barack Obama tries to bring universal health care to the U.S.A. and the "Brooks Brothers Brigade" tries to everything in its power to stop him, let's take a quiet moment and give thanks to ____ (fill in the deity of your choice) for medicare.

More than back bacon and our legendary tendency to go "eh?" it's what makes us Canadian.

In fact, we should erect a statue to Tommy Douglas, the Father of Medicare, right on the lawn of Parliament Hill. I'm sure we can warehouse a couple statues of Queen Victoria to make space.

I suspect that many of you reading this today born in the 1970s, '80s or '90s have no idea who Tommy Douglas was. A little background: He was the premier of Saskatchewan who fought off the fiercely focused efforts of the medical lobby and a doctor's strike to get universal health care adopted in Saskatchewan, back in 1962. Four years later, Ottawa, under Lester Pearson (another statue, please), followed suit.

And now, when you're sick, you can get health care without being ruined, even if you have a "prior condition," unlike 47 million Americans. It's why we're so careful when we go shopping for cheese across the border. We might break a leg and won't be able to crawl back to health care and safety.

I know, I know. There's a lot wrong with the system as currently constituted. The Fraser Institute (our own version of the Brooks Brothers Brigade) estimates health care will consume 100 per cent of provincial revenues by the year 2050 (it takes up more than half now), and the average wait time for surgery and other medical procedures is 17 weeks. The good news: That's down from 18 weeks in 2007.

And we all have stories of being stacked up in a hospital corridor or getting treated in a broom closet while waiting for a bed. Inevitably, we're looking at a two-tier system where those who can will pay for preferential treatment, while the rest of us limp into the lineup.

Implementing a version of that two-tier system in America will cost $1 trillion. But it's necessary — now more than ever as increased unemployment brings increased loss of benefits.

It's funny. I remember Tommy Douglas as a little man with thick glasses and an annoying, adenoidal speaking style that would cause me to change channels if there was more than one, which, in 1962, there wasn't. But without that adenoidal little man, we'd all be up Meech Lake without a paddle.

Cue the statue.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.

**Word on the street: There have been conflicting opinions about whether or not the recession is over. Do you think we're on the road to recovery?**

**Brian Ball**
age 23, Calgary

A: No. I heard about the deficit change in Alberta from $4 billion to $7 billion. That doesn't sound like we are on the road to recovery.

**Danielle Duguay**
age 27, Calgary

A: I think it will be over when people think it's over ... It's just based on how the Canadian citizen reacts to what is happening around them.

**Kelly Cable**
age 39, Edmonton

A: Yes. If you take a look at the major banks and what the major companies have been able to do in the last quarter, it's pretty evident that the bottom has hit at least.

**Andrea Ewer**
age 22, Halifax

A: I haven't noticed any difference in my own personal life — I haven't noticed any up or down.

**Yvan Levesque**
age 57, Toronto

A: No. I don't think so. I think it's only starting to get better because in Toronto, everything is going up in price: Rent, food, everything except people's salaries.

**Melanie Keast**
age 33, New Brunswick

A: I don't think we're over it yet. As Canadians I think we really need to keep track of how we spend and how we live, and learn to be smart spenders.

MICHAEL DE ADDER

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Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number – street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

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**PepsiCo deals welcome windfall for investors**
PepsiCo Inc. won over its two largest bottlers by raising its takeover offers more than 20 per cent to $7.8 billion, giving investors a welcomed but not unexpected windfall. REUTERS

# Business

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# Ford tops July sales

**Ford has stunned the Canadian auto industry again by selling the most vehicles for the second consecutive month.**

Showing that its run to the top of the market in June for the first time in 60 years was no fluke, Ford reported yesterday sales shot up a startling 47 per cent in July from the same month a year earlier.

Hyundai, whose sales soared 37 per cent, joined Ford among the few posting big gains in July as the overall market dropped 6.4 per cent or almost 10,000 vehicles to 139,901.

It marked the ninth consecutive month that sales have dropped in Canada despite continuing incentives. But the decline is the smallest one during the period and is fuelling hopes that the industry could be pulling out of a downturn. Sales for the first seven months of the year are still down 16.6 per cent to almost 861,000.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES

## Business in brief

**TELECOM** Bankrupt Nortel Networks received U.S. and Canadian court approval yesterday to sell its enterprise business. Nortel, based in Toronto, said it reached a "stalking horse" agreement to sell the enterprise business to Avaya Inc. for $475 million US after considering four bids.

**RECESSION** U.S. consumers spent more in June and pending sales of pre-owned homes also rose, data released yesterday showed, but the biggest drop in incomes in four-and-a-half years pointed to a slow recovery. Spending rose 0.4 per cent in June after a 0.1 per cent gain the previous month.

**CONSTRUCTION** Canam Group said yesterday one of its units, Structal-Heavy Steel Construction, has won a contract worth almost $60 million to help build a retractable roof on the new Marlins baseball park near Miami, Fla. REUTERS

**Roenick ready to retire**
San Jose Sharks forward Jeremy Roenick is expected to announce his retirement tomorrow, ending the NHL star's 20-year career. METRO NEWS SERVICES

7

# Sports

EDITOR: CHRIS.CLEMENTS@METRONEWS.CA

## Ruling could be calm before the desert storm

**The NHL, Jim Balsillie, various bidders, creditors and other interested parties with a stake in the Phoenix Coyotes are today waiting for a ruling from bankruptcy judge Redfield T. Baum, hoping to get some sense of the team's future.**

The only sure bet is that, whatever the judge rules, someone is going to be severely ticked off.

Baum is expected to hand down a decision on how the Sept.10 auction of the Coyotes will be conducted, including whether Canadian billionaire Balsillie will be allowed to participate or whether it will be restricted to the two bidders who intend, after reworking the team's arena lease, to keep the team in the Phoenix suburb of Glendale.

Balsillie, of course, wants to move the team to Hamilton and is pursuing his purchase of the team even though he has been unanimously rejected by the NHL's governors as a potential owner.

But don't expect today's ruling to be definitive or for it to end the soap opera-like drama that has surrounded the Coyotes bankruptcy. Even Baum conceded that however the auction unfolds, it will likely be followed by endless litigation.

This case has been steeped in angry rhetoric and finger pointing. Even yesterday, reacting to confidential information leaked on Friday — details of the concessions Jerry Reinsdorf was seeking from Glendale in his bid — Baum yesterday ordered Jerry Moyes, owner of the Coyotes, to show why he should not be held in contempt of court.

Baum ordered Moyes, his wife Vickie and their attorneys to appear at a show-cause hearing today after they allegedly violated the confidentiality order issued by the judge.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## Sports in brief

**FORMULA ONE** Bernie Ecclestone says Formula One will return to Montreal next season. Ecclestone, the head of the F1 circuit, said in yesterday's edition of Motorsport Aktuell magazine that "we'll be driving in Montreal again in 2010."

**OLYMPICS** Canada won't bid for the 2018 Winter Olympics, but is considering a bid to host the 2022 Games. The 2018 Games is too soon after next year's Vancouver Olympics for Canada to play host again, says Chris Rudge, the chief executive officer of the Canadian Olympic Committee.

**CANUCKS** Chris Zimmerman is stepping down as president and chief executive officer of the Vancouver Canucks. Zimmerman, a former Nike executive, is leaving the job he's held for the last three years for family reasons, the team said yesterday in a statement. Mike Gillis, the Canucks general manager, will also take on the role of president.

**CFL** DeAndra' Cobb, rookie running back of the Hamiltion Tiger-Cats, was named the CFL's offensive player of the week yesterday. Hamilton linebacker Jamall Johnson took home the defensive award, Arkee Whitlock of the Edmonton Eskimos was named special-teams player of the week and Saskatchewan Roughriders slotback Chris Getzalf was top Canadian.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

## Blue Jays Yankees take Doc deep

FRED THORNHILL/REUTERS

Toronto starting pitcher Roy Halladay stands on the mound as New York's Johnny Damon rounds the bases behind him after hitting a home run in the eighth inning last night during the Yankees' 5-3 win over the Blue Jays.


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In the coming weeks Metro's Workology section will be focusing on the part of the entertainment industry that you DON'T see. Backstage Pass will focus on the careers behind the camera and the curtain. So be sure to read Workology and Metronews.ca/work every day.

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# Workology

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

# A playwright's tale

## Writing for the stage can be a hard and lonely business

Backstage Pass

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Canada

**The process of getting a play out of the writer's head and onto the stage is a long and winding one. Governor General Award-winning playwright Catherine Banks wrote her first play in 1983. She learned a lot from the process, but it never saw the light of stage; her first performed play came in 1991.**

Creating a play demands imagination, deep pockets and a full commitment to the story, playwright Catherine Banks says.

"I started writing that play the week I brought my newborn daughter home from (the hospital) and it was produced the year she entered primary," the Nova Scotian playwright says of The Summer of the Piping Plover. "It felt really wonderful when that play opened because I had learned I could do it."

Playwriting can be a hard, lonely business, with no guarantee your work will ever be performed. Banks' big breakthrough came last year, when Bone Cage won the coveted GG.

"It was validation shot through with joy!" she says.

Getting a play performed can be an arduous process. She had to secure funding from government agencies and sink a lot of her own cash into Bone Cage. By then, Banks was fully committed to the play's darkly humorous story of Jamie and Chicky growing up in rural Nova Scotia.

"Why would any character ever come to me again if I didn't see the characters of Bone Cage all the way to the stage?" she wonders.

After studying acting at university, Banks honed her skills at local writing workshops. Many institutes such as Dalhousie University offer courses on playwriting as part of theatre programs. UBC offers an MFA in creative writing and theatre (playwriting) and students at Concordia can major in playwriting.

For more of the Backstage Pass exclusive series check Workology frequently or stop by:
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**Beware summer heat inside car**
If left inside a vehicle during a hot, summer day, babies can become distressed in just five minutes, and in less than 40 minutes, a child or pet could suffer severe dehydration or heat stroke. SOURCE: B.C. AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION

# Metro Drive

**Kizashi coming**
Suzuki recently debuted the 2010 Kizashi, the company's first entry into the all-wheel drive sport sedan segment. The flagship model arrives in North America this winter.
METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

# VW Eos: Hello sunshine

**2009 Volkswagen Eos**
**Type:** Sports convertible
**Price:** from $35,975
**Engine:** 2L four-cylinder turbocharged
**HP:** 200

JIL MCINTOSH
for Metro Canada

**There really aren't any bad convertibles on a sunny day, but some are better than others, and the Volkswagen Eos is a very good one.**

At a base price of $35,975, it isn't cheap. But it holds four people, and its retractable hardtop (no soft roof is available) means it can comfortably handle winter weather as well.

Based on the Rabbit platform, the Eos uses a 200-horsepower turbocharged 2.0-litre four-cylinder engine, with a six-speed manual or optional six-speed Direct Shift Gearbox (DSG) in Trendline or Comfortline trim. My top-line Silver-Red Edition tester comes only with the DSG, and starts at $44,575.

The DSG, also called a dual-clutch, is probably one of the best developments since transmissions first learned to shift themselves. It contains two gearboxes with clutches between them, one with even-numbered gears, the other with odd-numbered. As soon as you're in first gear, the other side has second gear ready, so the shifts are almost immediate. Once that's done, third gear gets ready, and so on. These transmissions are silky-smooth and all but seamless, along with increased fuel economy.

The Eos is great to drive: power comes on smoothly, torque steer is well-managed, handling is accurate and the steering is nicely weighted. Even when the top is down, it feels confidently solid and tight, with no rattles or cowl shake.

Interior materials are good-quality and precisely fitted, with just enough metallic trim to look good but not garish.


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Most consumers fail to realize that the rates charged by different insurance companies to insure the same driver, with the same car, for the same coverage, can vary by hundreds and even thousands of dollars. The key to finding the best rate is to figure out which insurance company has the best rate for your particular situation. And with rates varying so wildly across companies, chances are you are not with the company that has the lowest rate for your profile right now.

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**It's Fiesta time**

Six Ford Fiestas have arrived in Halifax from Europe, in preparation for a cross-country tour. The vehicles will provide many Canadian consumers their first opportunity to see the model. The North American version arrives in Canada next summer. METRO NEWS SERVICES

# Clunkers are people too

Canada already has a scrappage program called Retire Your Ride which offers people various incentives for turning in their clunkers.

AutoPilot

Michael Goetz

metronews.ca/autopilot

What do you make of this "cash for clunkers" deal?

I think I'll sit on the fence on this one for a bit longer, because it affords a good view, and that allows me to emulate my hero, Yogi Berra, who once wisely remarked, "you can observe a lot just by watching."

For those of you not following the story, "cash for clunkers" is the unofficial name of a U.S. program that pays owners $3,500 to $4,500 if they trade-in and scrap their "clunkers" for new, fuel-efficient vehicles.

This is supposed to stimulate the economy and "green" the fleet.

The U.S. got the idea from Germany, who started its "cash for clunkers" program back in January (though they called it something like "Knockwurst oder Marks for Autos das Crappy und Kaput").

As "stimulus" to buy new vehicles, the programs are widely successful. The U.S. program was scheduled to run from July 28 through Nov. 1, 2009, or when the allocated funds of $1 billion US were exhausted, whichever came first.

The money didn't last a week.

Canadian Environment Minister, Jim Prentice, publicly stated he'd announce a decision by September, whether Canada will pony up for such a heightened scrappage program.

A lot of people are unaware that we've always had scrappage programs. The latest iteration, called Retire Your Ride, was introduced this past January. It is funded by Environment Canada and managed by the Clean Air Foundation (CAF).

Under this program, owners of vehicles made during or before 1995 can scrap their vehicles in exchange for various incentives, like public transit passes, membership in car sharing programs, discounts toward the purchase of a bicycle, or $300 in cash. Incentives vary by province and are delivered by local agencies working with CAF.

**"$300 is not nearly enough to get somebody to give up a road-worthy clunker, but $3,500 to $4,500 will certainly do the trick."**

So far, this has not induced droves of Canadians to trade in their pre-1995 vehicles. What we've learned recently then, is that $300 is not nearly enough to get somebody to give up a road-worthy clunker, but $3,500 to $4,500 will certainly do the trick and then some — and might in fact be overkill.

Canadian politicians are wavering, and U.S. politicians are in a huge debate about whether to continue the program, because, well, it's a hell of a lot of money to spend on one sector of the economy, even with the expected benefits to the environment.

On those matters I'll let them grapple. What I'm mulling over, up on my fence post, is how a successful scrappage program of any stripe might erode the honourable tradition of "clunker culture."

A lot of us have had to drive a clunker sometime in our lives and I'd like to think we're better people for it. We've learned how to rip duct tape with our bare hands and bare teeth, how to twist off a hot radiator cap with someone else's sweatshirt, and how to accept certain and inevitable calamities with maybe not grace, but at least something in that general direction.

Where are we going to learn stuff like that, when all the 1991 Chevy Cavaliers are gone?

Michael Goetz has been writing about cars and editing automotive publications for over 20 years. He lives in Toronto with his family and a neglected 1967 Jaguar E-type.

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# Audi, Suzuki celebrate 100th year

EMMA E FORREST
Metro World News

Audi celebrated its 100th year last month, and it has a lot to celebrate.

It is launching an exciting new model, the A5 Sportback, and some great stats.

In 2008 it delivered a record million cars globally, for the first time, achieved its best-ever revenue figure, and a record profit-before-tax total of 3.177 billion Euros.

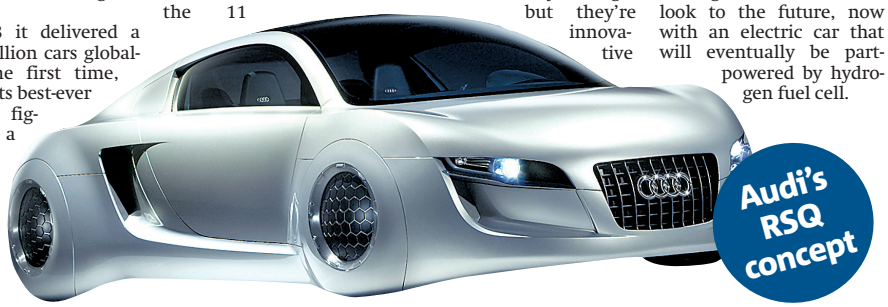
Meanwhile Suzuki blows out the candles on its 100th birthday cake in October. The Japanese company started out creating weaving looms, then motorbikes, followed by its first car, the Suzulight, in 1955.

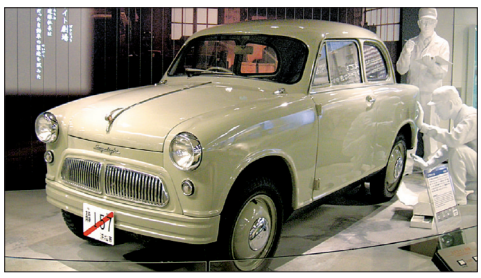
Last year they sold 2.3 million cars worldwide. Of the 11 million cars on the roads of India, more than 7.5 million are Suzukis.

Finally, the world's oldest independent sports car company, Morgan hits 100. Its handbuilt models, including the Morgan 4/4 might look like they were conceived 100 years ago, but they're innovative at heart.

These lovingly-crafted, bespoke cars have always been forward-looking: they are lightweight, low-emissions, long-lasting and made with renewable materials (including English ash wood).

Morgan continues to look to the future, now with an electric car that will eventually be part-powered by hydrogen fuel cell.



The Suzulight, Suzuki's first car built in 1955.

Morgan's space age Aero 8.

**Travel at the iTunes Store**

iLounge.com notes that Apple has added a new Travel Guide section to the iTunes storefront under More In Music, (it) offers links to destination applications, podcasts, audiobooks" and lots more. METRO NEWS SERVICES

# Travel

## Standing room

According to the International Airline Passengers Association (IAPA), "at least two very low-cost carriers are entertaining the idea of transporting passengers in an upright manner — standing up! ... Spring Air, China's self-proclaimed first low-cost carrier is looking for permission from regulators to install 'standing seats' that would cost less than traditional seats... (and Ryanair) is looking to Boeing for a design that would permit stools or railings for passengers to be strapped to." See iapa.com for more details. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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# Syria flaunts its hidden treasures

## Trove of historical landmarks awaits Western tourists

KHALED AL-HARIRI/REUTERS

ISTOCKPHOTOS.COM

Left, Western tourists visit the Ottoman-era Takiyah Suleimanieh mosque complex in Damascus. Right, the ruins of Palmyra.

**Iranian pilgrims pray beside Arabs at the 8th century Umayyad Mosque, one of Islam's grandest sites. Down a nearby alley, European tourists watch restoration work at an Ottoman-era palace being converted into a hotel.**

"I've not seen such contrast between image and the reality," said German tourist Anna Kopola, looking at Syrian art on display in a gallery in the capital, Damascus. "Syria is portrayed as a centre of terrorism in the West but it's peaceful and modern."

While tourists have long travelled to see Egypt's pyramids, tense ties with the West made Syria a no-go zone for decades.

Few have heard of the magnificent ruins at Dura Europos, a Greco-Roman city dubbed the Pompeii of the desert, or Krak des Chevaliers, among the world's greatest Crusader castles.

But a rapprochement with the West — Syria recently invited U.S. President Barack Obama to Damascus for talks — and the gradual liberalization of an economy that long shunned foreign input are helping Syria shed its pariah state image.

"Nicolas Sarkozy's visit last year was a boost," Antoine Mamarbachi, a tour operator said of the French president. "Syria is no longer a persona non grata."

Tourist numbers rose 15 per cent last year and Tourism Minister Saadallah Agha al-Qalaa expects 40,000 new hotel beds to become available in the next three years, up from 48,000 now.

**"Few have heard of the magnificent ruins at Dura Europos, a Greco-Roman city dubbed the Pompeii of the desert, or Krak des Chevaliers, among the world's greatest Crusader castles."**

Demand has grown so fast, he said, that Syrian tourism may escape the impact of the global downturn that has hit the sector worldwide. Tourism already accounts for 13 per cent of Syria's gross domestic product and will only become more important as the Arab country's dwindling oil production falls further.

Syria has so far tended to attract visitors from other parts of the Middle East, who are less perturbed by its image and more interested in its beach resorts.

Two-thirds of visitors last year were Arab, but promotional campaigns by the state and tour operators over the last year have targeted high-end Europeans.

As the East-West crossroads of the ancient world, Syria has been a trade hub for centuries, attracting European adventurers from Lawrence of Arabia to Freya Stark.

Dura Europos, the ruined walled city above the banks of the Euphrates, produced early examples of Judaic and Christian art. The Umayyad dynasty made Damascus the capital of a Muslim empire that stretched to Spain.

Read more on page 12 »

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**Best podcast of the year**

According to the Daily Telegraph, the "best audio travel podcast of the year so far is iKangaroo's Angels and Demons walking tour of Rome, iKangaroo.com. City expert Chris Carriero guides you around the sights, art, architecture and history of the film's locations in seven episodes." METRO NEWS SERVICES

G. DAGLI ORTI/DE AGOSTINI PICTURE LIBRARY

Syria's Krak des Chevaliers, a fortress that's among the world's great Crusader castles.

# 'Syria is a bargain'

>> Continued from page 11

Legend has it that two heads are buried beneath the Ummayad Mosque — those of John the Baptist and Imam Hussein, an early Islamic figure whose killing in 680 AD cemented Shi'ite-Sunni splits.

But Syria's modern history has been dominated by its struggle with Israel and Soviet-style policies since the Baath Party's 1963 coup that reduced it to an economic backwater.

The United States imposed sanctions on Syria in 2004 and the government faces two United Nations investigations, although tensions have eased in recent months and Washington said in June it would appoint an ambassador to Damascus after a four-year hiatus.

"The business environment in Syria is still poorer than its neighbours, but this is a virgin market and the fact that so many investors are coming shows that the risk is worth taking," said Jihad Yazigi, editor of the Syria Report online newsletter.

Only in the past decade has Syria eased restrictions on foreign exchange and banking and allowed companies to transfer profits abroad.

But it remains among the world's hardest places to do business, according to World Economic Forum study.

Courts lack safeguards against political interference and the workforce lacks language skills and training. Yet the risks have not put off investors from the oil-exporting Gulf.

Qatari Diyar, a real estate company owned by the Qatar Investment Authority, is building a $350 million resort on the Mediterranean coast. Kuwait's Kharafi group is building a 361-room hotel in Damascus. Global hotel brands including Movenpick, Kempinski and Holiday Inn also plan developments.

"Syria is a bargain, although it needs to develop its infrastructure," said Kuwaiti businessman Abdul Hameed Dashti.

In the covered souqs of Old Damascus, Western tourists now shop for Syrian kilims and amble from the tomb of the Mamluk ruler Baibars to courtyard houses-turned-boutique hotels.

Repeated wars have left scars on Syria's neighbour Lebanon but those tourists who do make the journey often combine it with a short drive to Damascus.

Construction across Syria has been chaotic but investors are taking increasing care to preserve the character of Old Damascus and Aleppo, realizing that this is what many Europeans crave. REUTERS

## Top cities to visit with children

JEFF MORSE

Santa Domingo church in Oaxaca, Mexico.

Many cities can be overwhelming for young travellers, but some are as much fun for the kids as the grown-ups. Lonely Planet's Travel With Children guide lists the top 10 cities around the world that are ideal to visit with children.

**1 Oaxaca, Mexico:** This colourful Mexican city is pint-sized, charming and fun to explore on foot. A central plaza provides plenty of run-around space for kids and there's a vibrant market; visitmexico.com.

**2 Istanbul:** With its mosques, palaces, museums, bazaars, multicoloured carpets, food markets, Bosphorus cruises and sweet apple tea, children will be fascinated and enchanted at every turn; tourismturkey.org.

**3 London:** You could stay in London for a whole year and find interesting things to do with the children every day. In summer don't miss out on playing in the fountains at Somerset House where there's an outdoor ice-skating rink in the winter; visitlondon.com.

**4 Los Angeles:** A good destination for teenagers — choose between the original Disneyland, Universal Studios and Santa Monica. There's heaps to see and do in this sprawling city that encapsulates the American Dream; discoverlosangeles.com.

**5 Vancouver:** Vancouver is frequently named the most liveable city in the world. There's lots of water as well as beaches, a huge urban park (Stanley Park) and numerous hiking and biking trails. In addition, all the attractions of the Rocky Mountains are just over 100 kilometres away; vancouver.ca/visitors.htm.

**6 Lisbon:** With trams trundling up to a castle, a state-of-the-art aquarium and a fascinating museum that explores Portugal's great seafaring past, this city captivates kids. The fairy-tale town of Sintra, too, is a just a short train ride away; see lisbon-guide.info. REUTERS

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INCLUDES roundtrip airfare and the first 2 nights 3-star central accom with breakfast.

London Fly, Stay & Rail FROM $699 + taxes & fees $462
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, first 2 nights 3-star central accom with breakfast and 3-day BritRail Flexi-Pass to explore England at your own pace.

**USA Holidays**

LAS VEGAS
FROM $199
+ taxes & fees $207
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare and 4 nights 3-star accom on the Las Vegas Strip. UPGRADE to 5-star accom from $26 per night.

Arizona Scottsdale FROM $489 + taxes & fees $121
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South Florida Fly & Drive FROM $529 + taxes & fees $127
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare to Miami and 7-day car rental with unlimited mileage.

New Orleans Getaway FROM $599 + taxes & fees $128
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare and 3 nights 3-star accom in the heart of the French Quarter.

**Sun Holidays**

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+ taxes & fees $270
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Mayan Riviera 4-Star FROM $597 + taxes & fees $270
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, transfers and 7 nights 4-star all-inclusive accom.

Mazatlan 5-Star FROM $717 + taxes & fees $269
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, transfers and 7 nights 5-star all-inclusive accom.

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**Jackman joins Barnum musical**
Hugh Jackman will unleash his singing skills on screen for a musical focused on legendary showman P.T. Barnum. Jenny Bicks is writing the script for Fox. METRO NEWS SERVICES

# Entertainment

**The Brit Awards**
Britney Spears has done it again. The singer has been nominated for seven MTV Video Music Awards. Last year, the pop princess took home three Moon Man trophies for Piece of Me. EONLINE.COM

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

# Filmmakers toying around

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

**If Hollywood gets its way this weekend, we will all soon be going to theatres to take in thrillers about Stretch Armstrong, He-Man and even the popular board game Monopoly.**

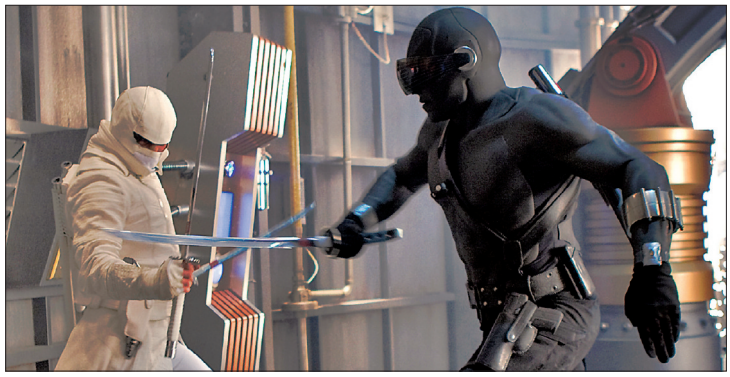
That's because this Friday's theatrical release of G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra will firmly establish the latest trend in filmmaking — movies based on popular toys.

Of course, it's not a completely novel idea. Even before Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen racked up over $380 million (and counting) this summer, there had been earlier proverbial dips of the toe in the toy genre.

But why have retro-toy movies become so popular?

"It's an escape from economic issues, woes and stress," said Transformers star Megan Fox recently. "People need to get away from reality and I think watching a movie about toys is a good way to numb your brain to things you don't want to be dealing with in life."

That nostalgic flight may be influential but there's also an entirely more strategic game working behind the scenes. With two major toy companies (Hasbro, Mattel) now aggressively paired with Hollywood's top talent agencies, it seems the toymakers are cross-pollinating their product with the cinema directly.



G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra, which is based on the popular toy line, opens in theatres this Friday.

In fact, Hasbro (both Transformers and G.I. Joe) has set up a six-year deal with Universal Pictures to obtain more authority on their toys' image.

"I think what we're seeing in the world at large is the power of brands distinguishing themselves," Universal Pictures Chairman Marc Shmuger recently told The Business Insider. "As we're gripped with fear and anxiety, we look for something we can rely on and trust … so the value of brands has changed, (and with it) what the owners of the brands want to accomplish changes too."

In addition to the aforementioned toys being turned into movies, other products in film development include board games like Battleship (with Hancock director Peter Berg attached) and Candy Land (written by Tropic Thunder's Etan Cohen).

As well, expect future movies about Hot Wheels, Masters of the Universe and even 1960s-era action figure Major Matt Mason — which is linked to none other than Tom Hanks. And when you've pervaded the influence of such A-list actors as Hanks, you know you've made it in Hollywood.

Movie **feature**

## Deals could add millions to Jackson estate

Jackson

**PEOPLE** An attorney for the executors of Michael Jackson's estate said yesterday that deals worked out in partnership with the King of Pop's concert promoter could provide millions of dollars to his estate.

Since his death in June, numerous reports have speculated that concert promoter AEG Live and the executors of Jackson's estate were working on arrangements to make videos, DVDs and other merchandise based on the Thriller singer's planned comeback.

Attorney Howard Weitzman, who represents Jackson's longtime lawyer John Branca and music industry executive John McClain, the two executors of Jackson's will, said after a court hearing Monday that Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Mitchell Beckloff, who is overseeing matters related to the estate, will likely approve business agreements at an Aug. 10 hearing. REUTERS

| CA | Vu | SC | 7:00 | 7:30 | 8:00 | 8:30 | 9:00 | 9:30 | 10:00 | 10:30 | 11:00 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8/5/09 | 267 | 351 - ACCESS | Alberta Primetime (Live) | | Monk | | Old Christine | Gary Unmarr | America's Got Talent | | Primetime |
| | 243 | 317 3 CFCN | Corner Gas | Hollywood | CSI: NY (HDTV) | | CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn. | | So You Think You Can Dance | | News |
| | - | - 4 OMNI | Two/Half Men | The Simpsons | News (N) | | News (N) | | The Simpsons | King | Metropia |
| | - | 371 5 KXLY | 4 News at 6 | 4 News at 6:30 | Entertainment | The Insider (N) | Wipeout (HDTV) (N) | | (10:02) I Survived a Japanese Game Show | | |
| | 245 | 306 6 CBRT | Coronation St. | Jeopardy! | Dragon's Den (HDTV) | | The Tudors (DVS) | | CBC News: The National | | The Hour |
| | 244 | 338 7 CICT | ET Canada | Entertainment | The Philanthropist (N) | | Wipeout (HDTV) (N) | | (10:02) In Plain Sight | | News Hour |
| | 246 | - 8 CKAL | Law & Order: SVU | | Murdoch Mysteries | | Goode Family | Surviving Sub. | Japanese Game Show | | Your City |
| | 119 | 705 9 CBXFT | Des squelettes | L'Épicerie (N) | La Petite Séduction (N) (SC) | | Bons baisers de France (SC) | | Le Téléjournal et Les Nou | | TJ Alberta |
| | - | - 10 SHAW | (6) Local Programming | | | | | | Local Programming | | |
| primetime | - | 372 12 KREM | News | Hollywood | The Doctors | | Old Christine | Gary Unmarr | Criminal Minds (HDTV) | | CSI: NY |
| | - | 374 14 KSPS | NewsHour With Jim Lehrer | | Make 'em Laugh: Funny | | Time Team America (N) | | The Head (DVS) | | Wings Over |
| | 502 | 390 15 CBC | CBC News: The National | | The Ugly Truth About Beauty | | CBC News: The National | | CBC News: The National | | The Ugly Truth |
| | - | 370 16 KHQ | News (N) | Be-Millionaire | Jeopardy! | Wheel-Fortune | TV's 50 Funniest Phrases | | America's Got Talent | | Philanthropist |
| | - | 373 22 KAYU | The Simpsons | Raymond | Two/Half Men | Two/Half Men | So You Think You Can Dance | | So You Think You Can Dance | | News |
| | 297 | 652 37 WPIX | America's Next Top Model | | PIX News at Ten Tong. | | Two/Half Men | Friends | Sex and-City | According-Jim | Frasier |
| news | 500 | 500 29 CNN | Larry King Live (N) | | Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV) | | | | Larry King Live | | Cooper 360 |
| | 508 | 502 31 CNN2 | Jane Velez-Mitchell | | Nancy Grace | | Showbiz Tonight | | Jane Velez-Mitchell | | Nancy Grace |
| sports | 400 | 400 21 TSN | MLB Baseball | | SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live) | | | Off the Record | 2009 World Series of Poker | | World Series |
| | 408 | 418 27 net | Billiards US Open 9 Ball 2008. | | Red Bull: Air Race | | UFC: Access | MMA Conn | Sportsnet Connected | | UFC Ult. 100 |
| | 410 | 403 30 SCORE | (5) RaceNight | | Score Tonight | | Final Score | Final Score | Final Score | Final Score | Final Score |
| | 411 | 457 44 OLN | Survivorman | | Ghost Hunters | | Dog the Bounty Hunter | | Survivorman | | Ghost Hunters |
| | 417 | 406 48 SPEED | Pass Time (N) | Pass Time (N) | Wrecked | Wrecked | Pimp My Ride | Pass Time | Amer. Thunder | Pinks Outtakes | Pass Time (N) |
| family | 552 | 543 20 YTV | iCarly | iCarly | In Real Life "The Circus" | | Malcolm-Mid. | Futurama | Survive This | Adrenaline Proj | Falcon Beach |
| | 557 | 541 39 FAM | Zoey 101 | Life Derek | Wizards-Place | Han. Montana | Zack & Cody | Latest Buzz | Wizards-Place | Life Derek | Ned's School |
| | 555 | 545 67 TOON | Ben 10 | Johnny Test | Jimmy Two | Total Drama | 6TEEN | 6TEEN | Futurama | American Dad | Robot Chicken |
| | 575 | 583 11 CMT | Reba | Reba | Hope & Faith | Hope & Faith | Canyon | CMT 4 Tracks | Home Improve. | Home Improve. | Reba |
| | 553 | 546 17 TREE | Little Bear | Bucket-Dinos | Comfy Couch | Big & Small | Max & Ruby | Babar | Backyardigans | Ni Hao, Kai-lan | Go, Diego, Go! |
| | - | - 18 CHTV | The Insider (N) | E! News | Psych (N) | | Kendra | Kendra | Women on Top | Women on Top | CHCA News |
| | 505 | 398 19 TWN | (5) EarthWatch One | | EarthWatch One | | EarthWatch Two | | | | |
| | 602 | 568 23 W | Style by Jury | Style by Jury | Style by Jury | Friends | Grocery Bag | Grocery | Love It or List It | | *Wicked Minds* |
| | 521 | 560 24 TLC | I Didn't Know | I Didn't Know | Toddlers & Tiaras (N) | | Cake Boss | Cake Boss | I Didn't Know | I Didn't Know | Toddler-Tiara |
| | 603 | 561 25 FOOD | Iron Chef America | | The Next Food Network Star | | Opening Soon | Opening Soon | Unwrapped | Unwrapped | Diner, Drive-In |
| | 615 | 520 26 A&E | Dog the Bounty Hunter | | Dog the Bounty Hunter | | Criss Angel Mindfreak | | Dog the Bounty Hunter | | Bounty Hunter |
| | 617 | 522 32 SHOW | Trailer Park | Trailer Park | The Outer Limits | | The Guard (HDTV) | | *Destination: Infestation* (2007, Suspense) | | |
| | 601 | 562 33 SLICE | End of Leash | End of Leash | End of Leash | End of Leash | ET Canada | Til Debt-Part | Real Housewives OC | | Trading Sp |
| | - | 633 34 ENC2 | (7:05) *The Guilty* ★★ (1999, Suspense) Bill Pullman. | | | | *The Devil's Own* ★★★ (1997, Suspense) Harrison Ford. | | | | *Frantic (1988)* |
| | 520 | 505 35 DISC | Deadliest Catch | | Mayday "Fanning the Flames" | | Daily Planet | | Day of the Shark 2 | | Mighty Ships |
| | 620 | 523 36 BRAVO | Wingfield | Wingfield | Borradaile's Century | | Law & Order | | Without a Trace | | *The War Zone* |
| | 294 | 650 40 WPCH | (6) *Bandits* ★★ (2001, Comedy) | | | Seinfeld | *Bandits* ★★ (2001, Comedy) Bruce Willis, Billy Bob Thornton. | | | | |
| | 626 | 547 41 COM | Laughs | Comedy Now | Air Farce | 22 Minutes | 22 Minutes | Corner Gas | The Simpsons | South Park | Jon Dore Show |
| | - | 539 42 TCM | (6) *Speedy* | *Welcome Danger* ★★ (1929, Comedy) Harold Lloyd. | | | | *Feet First* ★★ (1930, Comedy) Harold Lloyd. | | | *Movie Crazy* |
| | 628 | 584 43 SPIKE | Ultimate Fighting Championship 95: Sanchez vs. Stevenson (HDTV) | | | | | | CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn. | | Amazing Video |
| | 522 | 516 45 HIST | Crime Stories | | NCIS "Grace Period" | | Cities of the Underworld | | Ice Road Truckers | | NCIS |
| | 627 | 528 46 SPACE | Primeval | | Stormworld (N) | Stormworld (N) | Stargate SG-1 (DVS) | | Star Trek: Next Gener. | | Trek: Voyager |
| | - | - 47 AMC | (6) *The Dirty Dozen* ★★★ (1967, War) Lee Marvin, Ernest Borgnine. | | | | | *Hamburger Hill* ★★ (1987, War) Anthony Barrile. | | | |
| | 619 | 525 49 TROP | North of 60 | | The Crow: Stairway to Heaven | | What Happen? | What Happen? | Are You Smarter | | Family Guy |
| | 600 | 564 50 HGTV | Property Virgin | Hid Potential | House Hunters | House Hunters | Holmes-Homes | Holmes-Homes | Hid Potential | Property Virgin | Big City Broker |
| | 501 | 391 52 CTV | CTV News Tonight | | News | CTV News | News | CTV News | News | CTV News | News |
| | 504 | 508 70 BNN | Taking Stock | | Market Call | | Headline | Market Call | Commodities | Business News | Taking Stock |
| | 526 | 507 92 VIVA | The Closer | | Mediums | Psychic Detect | Mediums | Encounters | Judging Amy | | Medium |
| | 269 | 350 93 APTN | Canadian Geographic | | Reel Insights The history of Herschel Island. | | | Vitality | Miywayawin | Find. Our Talk | Wings-Canada |
| | - | - 94 MCP | World News | News | Banquet | Kingdom-Wind | Van. Nights | Iranian Pop | Sabor Latino | | Sabor Musical |
| | 571 | 581 100 MMM | Celebrity Rehab With Dr. Drew | | Entourage | Gene Simmons | (9:02) The Daily Fix | | Celebrity Rehab With Dr. Drew | | Entourage |
| | 570 | 580 101 MM | Making His Band | | Video on Trial | Video on Trial | One Tree Hill | | Making His Band | | Video on Trial |
| | 581 | 566 102 MTV | The Real World | | The Real World (N) | | MTV Live | After | 16 and Pregnant | | Real World |

## critics' corner

**The Philanthropist**
Rhada Shivpuri (guest star Sarita Choudhury), one of Teddy and Philip's (James Purefoy, Jesse L. Martin) college friends, asks for help negotiating with the Indian and Pakistani governments in an effort to rebuild the water system in the Kashmir region. Philip and Dax (Michael Kenneth Williams) must lead a desperate manhunt after Teddy goes missing in a war-torn sector. Neve Campbell also stars in the new episode "Kashmir." 8 PM on CICT, 11 PM on KHQ

**The Next Food Network Star**
In "Miami Up All Night," the remaining four finalists prepare to head to Miami for their next challenge, but first they must create a dish for one of OTG Management's restaurants at JetBlue's Terminal 5 at JFK Airport in New York. The finalists then go to Miami to cater a swanky party at the fabulous Nikki Beach nightclub. 8 PM on FOOD

**Douglas son's drug charge**

Michael Douglas' son Cameron Douglas has been arrested in New York on a drug charge, according to media reports. Douglas, 30, was arrested at the Hotel Gansevoort in Manhattan and faces a methamphetamine-dealing charge. PEOPLE.COM

## Celebrity Buzz

# Mischa gets off to a rough start

**STUMBLING BLOCKS** Mischa Barton's return to her social life hasn't been going too smoothly, according to Page Six.

A source spotted the actress out Saturday night in NYC's West Village where Barton was "having a disastrous dinner" with a group of girls.

"She was upset and talking frantically into her phone about having a stalker," the source said. "Her friends were trying to console her, but she went outside and chain-smoked cigarettes."

The next night, Barton attended a party where someone spilled a drink on her dress.

METRO WORLD NEWS

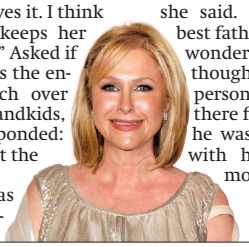
# Hilton mom remembers Michael

**NOSTALGIA** Kathy Hilton, Paris' mom, was devastated by the recent loss of her lifelong "special friend" Michael Jackson, people.com reports.

"I have never lost anybody that I went to school with that I was close to in a friendship (that lasted) all these years," she told People.

Hilton believes that the late singer's mother Katherine will be a positive guardian for the kids.

"I adore Mrs. Jackson. Katherine is the rock," said Hilton. "It is like Camp Jackson, all of those kids. All the aunts, the uncles, the children come there. She plays Scrabble with them. She loves it. I think that's what keeps her really young." Asked if Katherine has the energy to watch over her three grandkids, Hilton responded: "Oh, she's got the energy."



Hilton has fond memories of Jackson: "He was so much more normal than people know. He really was. He loved to giggle and have fun. I spent time with him, had dinners," she said. "He was the best father ... He was a wonderful, kind, thoughtful, caring person. He would be there for people and he was so generous with his time and money."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Here is this week's top diarrhea disaster:

"I was in Cozumel, Mexico on a cruise stop, and had just finished lunch at a dockside restaurant. On my way back to the ship to grab something, my stomach started to turn and I knew something was wrong. I ran to the closest bathroom, but it was out of order. I ran to the next one, but it was full. I decided to try to run for the ship. Midway there I realized that I was never gonna make it in time, so rather than go in my pants, I dove off the dock, clothes and all, and found relief in the warm Mexican sea! When people asked why I jumped in the water suddenly like that, I told them my expensive cell phone slipped out of my hand and I wanted to retrieve it!" - *S. Keogh*

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Imodium metro

# 'I'm not, but if I was...'

**FANNING THE FLAMES** If Gerard Butler was dating Jennifer Aniston, he'd be the first to admit it, people.com quotes him as saying.

"If I was, I would say I was," the actor told British TV show GMTV on Monday. Butler, 39, has been recently and repeatedly linked to Aniston, 40, with whom he's currently filming The Bounty in Manhattan.

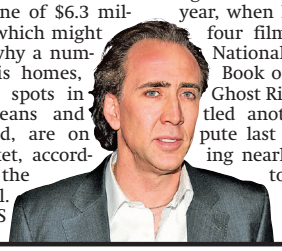
But even though the two look cozy in photos, he says there is nothing to it. "It's just that if you're not married in Hollywood and you're working with somebody else who's single, you're having a thing with her."

And just to add fuel to the fire, Butler says he's looking forward to the day on The Bounty set when they get to share some kisses. "I haven't done it yet," said, "but I'm excited ... I'm lucky — yeah, I know."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

# Nick ticks off the tax man

**WRONG SIDE OF THE LAW** Nicolas Cage has reportedly run afoul of the tax man to the tune of $6.3 million US, which might explain why a number of his homes, including spots in New Orleans and Hollywood, are on the market, according to the Daily Mail.



The IRS has filed court papers seeking millions from Cage for the 2007 fiscal year, when he starred in four films, including National Treasure: Book of Secrets and Ghost Rider. Cage settled another tax dispute last year by paying nearly $1 million to the IRS.

METRO WORLD NEWS

# Details about Jude's fling emerge

**THE NITTY-GRITTY** More details are emerging about how Jude Law first met Samantha Burke, the American model who is pregnant with the actor's fourth child.

The pair met in January outside a New York nightclub after it closed at 4 a.m., according to the Sun, when Law took Burke to a nearby diner before retiring to his hotel room.

Sources say the affair lasted barely a week. Pals of Burke insist she was no party animal before meeting Law.

"She's actually innocent and inexperienced when it comes to men," a high school friend told the newspaper.

GETTY IMAGES

METRO WORLD NEWS

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**Today** Showers 16 C / 7 C
**Thursday** Showers 17 C / 8 C
**Friday** Partly cloudy 20 C / 9 C

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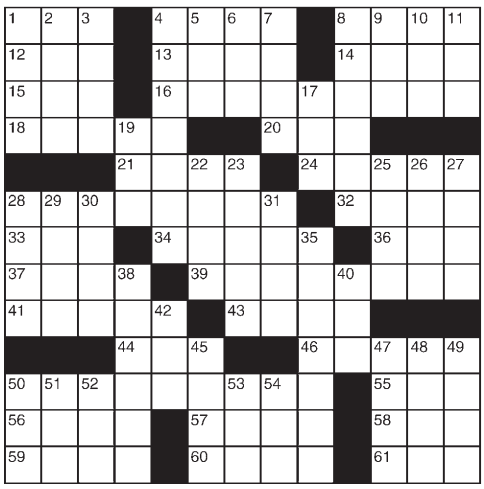
# Take Five



## Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

**HOW TO PLAY:** Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 8 | | 9 | | | | | |
| 6 | 9 | | | | | 8 | | 1 |
| | | 4 | | 5 | | | | 9 |
| 4 | | 2 | | 3 | 1 | | | |
| | 3 | | | | | | 1 | |
| | | | 2 | 8 | | 4 | | 6 |
| 1 | | | | 4 | | 7 | | |
| 9 | | 7 | | | | | 5 | 2 |
| | | | | | 6 | | 8 | |

**ACROSS**

1 Request
4 MacDonald's place
8 Woman of the knight
12 Skedaddle
13 Curved molding
14 Bloodhound's clue
15 Lemieux milieu
16 Ruthless, as a competition
18 Winning
20 Twitch
21 Honey bunch?
24 PAC's concern
28 Likely loser
32 Swampy terrain
33 "A pox upon thee!"
34 Above, to an editor
36 Predetermine
37 Watch wolfishly
39 Carnival goer's lunch, maybe
41 Bookcase component
43 "Wheel of Fortune" option
44 Commotion
46 Legerdemain
50 Basic swimming stroke
55 Praise in verse
56 Rainbow
57 Slay
58 Antiquated
59 Kelly or Siskel
60 Calendar abbr.
61 Turn blue?

**DOWN**

1 Met melody
2 Similar things
3 Elbow counterpart
4 Animals' entrees
5 In olden times
6 Rule, for short
7 Encounter
8 E-business
9 Toss into the mix
10 Cattle call
11 Work unit
17 Have a bug
19 Honest politician
22 Learning (Abbr.)
23 Future juniors
25 Shuttlecock
26 Vivacity, to the maestro
27 Safecracker
28 Fleet from far away?
29 Approaching
30 Takeout order?
31 Clench
35 Food
38 Pass by
40 — jiffy
42 Medicine approval org.
45 Probability
47 Suitable
48 Without acting
49 Relinquish
50 Use a shovel
51 Raw rock
52 Card-player's call
53 Fawn's mama
54 Back talk

**PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 4 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 5 |
| 9 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 6 | 3 |
| 5 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 9 |
| 7 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 9 | 3 | 2 | 6 |
| 8 | 3 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 1 |
| 2 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 8 |
| 4 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 9 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 2 |
| 1 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 4 |
| 6 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 7 |

## On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca

## Metro Recipe of the Day

### Two-cheese Soufflé

**INGREDIENTS:**

5 large eggs
3/4 cup (175 ml) 1% milk
2 tbsp (25 ml) all-purpose flour
1/4 tsp (1 ml) salt
Several dashes hot red pepper sauce
1/3 cup (75 ml) shredded Colby cheese
1/3 cup (75 ml) shredded Swiss cheese

**METHOD:**

1. Separate eggs. Discard 2 yolks. Place egg whites in medium bowl. Place egg yolks in small bowl. Set aside.
2. Preheat oven to 325 F(160 C). Make foil collar and attach to 1-1/2-qt (1.5-l) soufflé dish. Lightly grease foil collar and soufflé dish. In small pot, whisk milk, flour, salt and red pepper sauce. Cook over moderate heat, stirring constantly, until mixture starts to thicken. Cook and stir 2 minutes more, until thickened and bubbly. Add cheese and stir until melted. Remove from heat.
3. Whisk egg yolks until light. Add some hot cheese mixture to yolks, then slowly whisk all of yolk mixture into cheese mixture.
4 . With electric mixer on high, beat egg whites until soft peaks form. Stir one-fourth of whites into hot cheese mixture, then quickly fold in remaining whites. Spoon into prepared soufflé dish. Make top hat. Bake 45 minutes or until puffy and golden. Serve immediately.

**SERVES 4**

**rd.ca**

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!

## Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

**ARIES** ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
There really is no limit to what you can accomplish, though your efforts are more likely to bring success if you focus on what is important.

**TAURUS** ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Someone you are close to will be emotionally demanding, but if you put yourself out for them now it will save you a lot of problems later on.

**GEMINI** ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
What you do with your life is limited only by the boundaries you allow your mind to impose on your actions. There are no limits. All things are possible.

**CANCER** ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
The Sun in the most worldly area of your chart makes this a good time to look at what you own and earn. Try something different.

**LEO** ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
This is one of the best times of the year for getting things done, both in your personal life and in your work, so don't hold back.

**VIRGO** ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
The Sun's transit of the most sensitive sector of your chart means you won't be able to fool either yourself or other people.

**LIBRA** ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Don't waste time dreaming and scheming of ways to turn back the clock. You know it can't be done.

**SCORPIO** ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
You are not the type to keep your opinions to yourself but be aware that if you deliberately antagonize someone today, they will hit back at you later.

**SAGITTARIUS** ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
If you feel like packing your bags and heading off into the wide blue yonder by all means do so. Don't hesitate for even a second.

**CAPRICORN** ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
Life moves in cycles and the cycle you are experiencing seems like you are taking too many backward steps.

**AQUARIUS** ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
You tend to see the world in terms of black and white, but at some point today you will realize that too narrow a viewpoint can be self-defeating.

**PISCES** ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Assess your priorities and decide what is worth devoting your time and energy to and what can and must be ignored. Aim for quality work.

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